

December 1997
Project Manager: Geoff Dorsey

COOS BAY WESTERN SNOWY PLOVER HABITAT RESTORATION, COOS BAY, OREGON Fact Sheet

AUTHORITY: Construction General, Continuing Authorities Program, Section 1135
SPONSOR: Oregon International Port of Coos Bay
STUDY PHASE: Construction

LOCATION: The study is on the North Spit of Coos Bay, adjacent to River Mile 2 of the Coos River. The Coos River entrance is on the southern Oregon coast, about 200 miles south of the Columbia River.

PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES: European beachgrass dominates the foredune and the interior of the Coos Bay North Spit. This dense cover precludes snowy plovers from using many of their former nesting habitat areas. The western snowy plover is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

RECOMMENDED PLAN: The proposed modification entails eradicating approximately 71 acres of European beachgrass by a salt water irrigation method.

STATUS: The salt water irrigation construction phase was initiated in June 1996 and completed in September 1996. Construction of a perimeter fence, limited hand pulling of beachgrass, and monitoring of the site are anticipated to begin in late February to early March 1998. The Bureau of Land Management will monitor for effectiveness.

SCHEDULE:

Construction of the fence	February - March 1998
Monitor vegetation plots	May 30, 1998

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT(S): The study is within Oregon's 4th Congressional District represented by Peter DeFazio.